

REMARKS

Reconsideration of the application in view of the present amendment is respectfully requested.

By the present amendment, claims 2-10 have been canceled, claim 1 has been amended to incorporate the subject matter of claim 5, claims 12-18 have been added.

Based on the foregoing amendments and the following remarks, the application is deemed to be in condition for allowance, and Action to that end is respectfully requested.

Claim 1, as amended, corresponds in scope to claim 5. Claim 5 was indicated as being allowable upon having been rewritten in independent form, including all of the limitation of the base claim and any intervening claims. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that claim 1, as amended, corresponding to claim 5 rewritten in independent form, is in condition for allowance.

Claim 11 depends on claim 1 and is allowable as being dependent on an allowable subject matter.

It is respectfully submitted that claims 12-18 are also allowable. Claim 12 corresponds in scope to claim 7, with some changes of editorial nature, which were

necessary to provide proper antecedents. Claim 7 was not rejected on the prior art, it was only rejected for being indefinite. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that claim 12, which corresponds in scope to claim 7 and is submitted to comply with all of the requirements of 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, is in condition for allowance.

Claims 13-17 depend on claim 12 and are allowable for the same reasons claim 12 is allowable and further because of specific features recited therein which, when taken alone or in combination with those of claim 12, are not disclosed or suggested in the prior art.

It is respectfully submitted that claim 18, which corresponds in scope to claim 8, that also was not rejected on the prior art, is likewise allowable.



CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that the application is in condition for allowance, and allowance of the application is respectfully requested.

Should the Examiner require or consider it advisable that the specification, claims and/or drawings be further amended or corrected in formal respects in order to place the case in condition for final allowance, it is respectfully requested that such amendment or correction be carried out by Examiner's Amendment and the case passed to issue. Alternatively, should the Examiner feel that a personal discussion might be helpful in advancing this case to allowance, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

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